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PATENT APPLICATION  
09/692,885

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kenneth R. Owens et al.  
Serial No.: 09/692,885  
Filed: October 20, 2000  
Group No.: 2616  
Examiner: Warner Wong  
Notice of Allowance Mailed: August 21, 2007  
Confirmation No.: 6112  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING MPLS  
NETWORK FAILURES

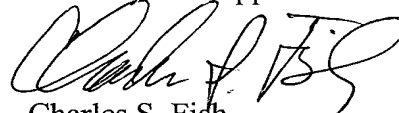
**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-24. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicants respectfully issue a statement commenting on the Examiner's reasons for allowance. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reasons for allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicants do not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations.

Respectfully submitted,  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicants



Charles S. Fish  
Registration No. 35,870

Date: November 14, 2007  
**CUSTOMER NO. 50627**